

honor to represent Fort Hood Army Base. I am proud to speak on behalf of "The Great Place." Located in Killeen, Texas, this 340-square-mile installation is the gold standard for the Army.

My visits to Fort Hood have given me a deeper appreciation for our military and their families. This appreciation is why I would like to recognize Memorial Day, which we will all celebrate on Monday, May 29.

This day reminds us of the brave men and women who gave up their todays so we could have our tomorrows. It gives us a chance to say thank you to a soldier, sailor, airman, coastguardsman, or a marine. Please join me in paying tribute to military members who have given our country the ultimate sacrifice.

May God bless our troops. God bless The Great Place, and God bless the United States of America.

In God we trust.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AT AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS

(Mr. CONNOLLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the international students and the U.S. institutions of higher education they attend. They have been unfairly penalized by the Trump administration through unconstitutional and illegal immigration executive orders.

I urge my colleagues and the administration to recognize the vital contribution these international students make to our country. International students who spend time in the United States become ambassadors when they return home, sharing an appreciation of our values, counteracting stereotypes about Americans and the United States, and enhancing respect for cultural differences and democratic norms.

International students contribute to the economic well-being of the United States. According to the Association of International Educators, during the last academic year, international students and their families supported 400,000 jobs and contributed \$33 billion to our domestic economy. In my district alone, 4,978 international students and families contributed \$137 million to our local economy, supporting 1,725 jobs.

Actions taken by this administration and this President have generated a great deal of fear and uncertainty within academia. It hurts America. I urge us to support more international students to come to our country.

RECOGNIZING FLAT ROCK MIDDLE SCHOOL

(Mr. FERGUSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work of the

students and faculty at Flat Rock Middle School in Tyrone, Georgia.

Four years ago, Dr. Monica Reckley decided to found a STEM program at Flat Rock to give her students more than just a traditional classroom experience. She hoped to show them how science, technology, math, and engineering could lead to future careers.

Today, the program has 150 students spread over 6th, 7th, and 8th grades, and it is helping students develop an interest that could lead them to new professional opportunities. The program introduces students to STEM, brings in speakers from these fields, and allows students to participate in related competitions.

Last month, 10 students from the program participated in the Georgia Tech InVenture Challenge and had several inventions showcased. These inventions included a bulletproof vest designed specifically for female police officers, a wireless vital signs monitoring device for elderly patients, a dental floss guard to make flossing easier, and an extension cord and power outlet combination that reduces the number of electrical outlets needed in a home.

I am so proud of these students and the opportunities this school district has provided to encourage young people to explore careers in the 21st century.

I am a proud supporter of career and technical education programs because they prepare students and young people for work and careers in the modern workforce.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET IS AWFUL

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against the President's newly released budget request.

When I began reading this budget request, only one word came to mind, at least that I can say here—awful!

It is an awful budget for American families struggling to make ends meet who haven't had a raise in years.

It is an awful budget for older Americans who paid into Social Security with the promise that it would be there for them.

It is an awful budget for local businesses who can't get their products to consumers because of our crumbling roads and bridges.

It is an awful budget for common sense, with unnecessary spending on a border wall that the American people will pay for.

It is an awful budget because it sets the stage for even more waste, fraud, and abuse in government.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, the only group that this budget isn't awful for is the President and his friends.

The President calls this an America First budget, so why is it leaving so many American families behind?

I urge my colleagues to completely reject this awful budget that doesn't

create jobs, doesn't uplift families, and doesn't make any sense.

ROWLAND THEATRE CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true gem in Philipsburg, Pennsylvania, the Rowland Theatre, which celebrates its 100th anniversary this year.

Rowland Theatre opened its doors on June 4, 1917. Its visionary was Congressman Charles Rowland, who was elected to the House of Representatives in 1915 and represented the 21st Congressional District, which included Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, and McKean Counties.

The Rowland Theatre was actually one small part of Congressman Rowland's life, but it would be the project that would become his legacy. The theater not only showed the latest silent movies during its first few decades, it was also the location for the top traveling shows in the country.

Now the Rowland Theatre shows feature films and also hosts plays, as well as choir and orchestra performances. The 1,000-seat theater remains an anchor of downtown Philipsburg, and it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Rowland Theatre is open 364 days a year, closing only on Christmas Eve.

Mr. Speaker, the Rowland Theatre is a real treasure. Here is to another 100 years.

Congratulations.

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RAISING THE DIALOGUE ON MIDDLE NEIGHBORHOODS

(Mr. EVANS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, President Trump's budget is officially live, and he plans to make massive cuts to programs that help our hardworking families get ahead.

What do we have to lose under President Trump's budget? What don't we have to lose? Education programs for our children, Medicare and Medicaid for the health and safety of our neighborhoods, affordable housing, SNAP benefits, veterans, seniors, and the hits keep coming. A budget is a moral document, and this one shortchanges Americans from the middle neighborhoods in Philadelphia to Beaver, Pennsylvania.

The President talks about putting the country first, yet the budget does no such thing.

There is a big difference between governing and campaigning. President Trump, our neighborhoods have a lot to lose when it comes to your budget. Over 40 percent of the populations of

Philadelphia live in what you call middle neighborhoods. Middle neighborhoods are neighborhoods caught between bust and boom, neighborhoods that are doing well enough.

Our neighborhoods compete for people. My district has a poverty rate of 28 percent. Mr. President, now is not the time to make deep cuts to programs our neighbors rely on while calling for massive tax cuts for the rich.

Instead, we need to make investments in food policy, social safety net, education policy, and make access to capital and credit. Our communities have too much to lose. Together we will build stronger neighborhoods, block by block.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). Members are reminded to address all comments to the Chair, not to other Members or to the President.

HONORING THOSE WHO DIED FOR OUR FREEDOM

(Mr. SMUCKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember those who fought and died for our freedom, to thank the brave men and women who today defend our freedom, and to recognize the sacrifice of all their families.

Pennsylvania has produced some of the greatest examples of valor and bravery the world has ever seen. It is home to pivotal moments in American history, like Gettysburg, Valley Forge, and the Battle of Lake Erie. Pennsylvania's sons have stormed the beaches of Normandy. They have liberated the oppressed from fascism and communism, and they have sought out terror in the depths of Afghanistan and Iraq in order to protect our way of life.

Memorial Day is coming up this weekend. We will all enjoy time with our families and friends, but we must always remember that is only possible because of the brave men and women who gave what Abraham Lincoln called the "last full measure of devotion," and those who protect us today.

THE UNAFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE BILL

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, currently a panel of Republican Senators are deciding the fate of millions of American women's healthcare. Tragically, their starting point is the House-passed bill that would force new moms on Medicaid to return to work right after birth, reduce women's access to copays for contraception, weaken protections for pre-existing conditions like pregnancy, and eliminate the guarantee of essential health benefits that provides services like mammograms and cervical cancer screenings, services that save lives.

All of these measures hurt women—and only women—and will do enormous harm to the health and well-being of women from childhood to old age. It is an outrage and a gross injustice when women are treated so unequally with such gross disparity and such total disregard for their lives and well-being.

It is one more powerful reason why this Congress should pass and send to the States to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, declaring in no uncertain terms that women are entitled to equal rights, equal justice, equal treatment, equal protection under the law, and that means equal treatment in healthcare. In this country, it is time, at long last, for equal to mean just that, equal.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER JO-ANN BURDIAN

(Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with much admiration and respect for Commander Jo-Ann Burdian of the United States Coast Guard.

Commander Burdian's tenure in the House of Representatives as a congressional liaison for the United States Coast Guard is coming to an end. She is on her second tour of duty, 3 years each, for a total of 6 years. During her tenure in the House of Representatives, we have seen unprecedented growth and change in the mission of the United States Coast Guard. It has become somewhat of a Swiss Army knife of an agency, of a command, covering everything from oil spills to homeland security, 9/11, alien interdiction, drug interdiction, defense missions, maritime security, and many other important missions around the world.

Commander Burdian has fostered incredible relationships with Members, staff, and oversight committees and done a fantastic job for both sides of the aisle, including assisting in the passage of two major Coast Guard authorization bills, three appropriations bills, full funding of the Offshore Patrol Cutter, the Fast Response Cutter, the National Security Cutter, and helping to secure \$150 million in the FY17 budget to progress polar icebreaker capabilities for the United States.

Commander Burdian's hard work and efforts for the House of Representatives were rewarded with her appointment to chief of response for Sector Puget Sound. I want to commend her and her family for incredible service to the United States.

MAY IS FOSTER CARE MONTH

(Mrs. LAWRENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as National Foster Care Month.

In Michigan, there are nearly 14,000 children in foster care and more than 400,000 children nationwide all in need of love and support. Studies have shown the majority of children in foster care are affected by mental health issues and often lack access to the help they need. We need to push for access to services to support these vulnerable children to avoid serious risks in the future.

I encourage my colleagues to continue working together in a bipartisan manner to address the needs of our foster care system. I also want to thank KAREN BASS for raising awareness on the critical needs facing foster youth through the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth. During this month and beyond, let us celebrate foster parents and caregivers and recommit to ensuring every child has a permanent, safe, and loving family.

HONORING THE LIFE OF YODELL BILLAH

(Mr. O'HALLERAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to Yodell Billah, who passed away earlier this month at the age of 97. Mr. Billah was a Navajo code talker and World War II Army veteran, fighting against the Germans in Italy until their surrender in 1945. His heroic actions and the work of our code talkers saved the lives of innumerable soldiers and civilians.

For his service, he was awarded the American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, and the European African Middle East Campaign Medal.

We can never repay the debts that we owe Mr. Billah, code talkers from all our Tribal Nations, and our veterans, but I am proud and humbled to stand before you today to bring attention to his service and honor his legacy.

Mr. Billah will forever be remembered as an active member of his community, a loving father, a grandfather, and, above all, a hero.

WE MUST RESPOND TO THE GLOBAL CRISIS OF HUNGER AND FAMINE

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, 20 million people in South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, and Nigeria are on the brink of famine. We saw this coming. The warning signs were there long before January of this year.

I am so proud that Republicans and Democrats joined together to include an additional \$1 billion in the FY 2017 omnibus bill to address these famines.

Our citizens and our farmers have always been generous in times of such grave need. They know that we have to protect children from hunger and the